CLAIMS

We Claim:

1. A method of operating an electronic device without the intervention of a user comprising:

setting a first persona for the electronic device, the first persona defining the parameter values for one or more persona parameters;

determining a current environment of the electronic device; and

switching to a second persona for the electronic device based upon the current environment of the electronic device, the second persona defining different parameter values for the one or more persona parameters.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the current environment comprises one of:

detecting a specific type of network;

being connected to a specific type of network;

detecting a specific network;

being connected to a specific network;

detecting a specific network access point;

being connected through a specific network access point;

being at certain location;

a specified period of the day;

a specified part of the week;

being connected to a specified connected peer;

the presence of an incoming call;

the presence of an outgoing call; and

the current foreground application being used.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the first persona parameters and the second persona parameters comprise at least one of :

the language used by the operating system;

the backdrop shown by the operating system;

the default prompt on the display;

the display font;

the browser settings;

the browser home page;

the window appearance;

the applications for which icons appear on the desktop;

the applications in the quick access bar;

the file name of the dictionary used by the applications;

the allowed applications;

the default data set accessed by each application;

the number of rings before switching to voicemail;

the default output device;

the speaker volume;

the earpiece volume;

the call forward number;

the voicemail box specification;

the auto answer preference;

the caller ID block list;

the number of telephony lines;

the mechanism of making long distance;

the speed dial numbers; and

the call minutes counter that counts the total telephony call duration of calls made while a persona is selected.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first persona and the second persona are stored in the electronic device.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first persona and the second persona are stored on a remote storage medium.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the electronic device is a mobile electronic device.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the current environment is based upon the current network the electronic device is connected to.

8. A software program stored on a computer readable medium comprising:

a persona manager module for entering persona parameter values associated with a plurality of personas stored on the computer readable medium; and

a persona activator module for determining a current environment and activating, without user intervention, one of the plurality of personas based on the current environment.

9. The software program of claim 8 wherein the current environment comprises one of:

being connected to a specific type of network;

being connected to a specific network;

being connected through a specific network access point;

being at certain location;

a specified period of the day;

a specified part of the week;

being connected to a specified connected peer;

the presence of an incoming call;

the presence of an outgoing call; and

the current foreground application being used.

10. The software program of claim 8 wherein the plurality of personas each define the parameter values for one or more persona parameters, the persona parameters comprising at least one of:

the language used by the operating system;

the backdrop shown by the operating system;

the default prompt on the display;

the display font;

the browser settings;

the browser home page;

the window appearance.

the applications for which icons appear on the desktop;

the applications in the quick access bar;

the file name of the dictionary used by the applications;

the allowed applications;

the default data set accessed by each application;

the number of rings before switching to voicemail;

the default output device;

the speaker volume;

the earpiece volume;

the call forward number;

the voicemail box specification;

the auto answer preference;

the caller ID block list;

the number of telephony lines;

the mechanism of making long distance;

the speed dial numbers; and

the call minutes counter that counts the total telephony call duration of calls made while a persona is selected.

11. The software program of claim 8 wherein the persona activator module determines the current environment after the detection of a trigger.

12. An electronic device comprising:

means for setting a first persona for the electronic device, the first persona defining the parameter values for one or more persona parameters;

means for determining a current environment of the electronic device; and

means for switching to a second persona for the electronic device based upon the current environment of the electronic device, the second persona defining different parameter values for the one or more persona parameters.

13. The electronic device of claim 12 wherein the current environment is based upon the current network the electronic device is connected to.

14. The electronic device of claim 12 wherein the current environment is based upon being connected with a second electronic device.

15. The electronic device of claim 12 wherein the first persona and the second persona are stored on the electronic device.

16. The electronic device of claim 12 wherein at least one of the first persona and the second persona are stored on a remote storage medium.

17. The electronic device of claim 12 wherein the electronic device is a mobile electronic device.

18. The electronic device of claim 12 further comprising means for displaying a persona icon on a display of the electronic device.

19. The electronic device of claim 12 wherein the current environment comprises one of:

being connected to a specific type of network;

being connected to a specific network;

being connected through a specific network access point;

being at certain location;

a specified period of the day;

a specified part of the week;

being connected to a specified connected peer;

the presence of an incoming call;

the presence of an outgoing call; and

the current foreground application being used.

20. The electronic device of claim 12 wherein the first persona parameters and the second persona parameters comprise at least one of :

the language used by the operating system;

the backdrop shown by the operating system;

the default prompt on the display;

the display font;

the browser settings;

the browser home page;

the window appearance.

the applications for which icons appear on the desktop;

the applications in the quick access bar;

the file name of the dictionary used by the applications;

the allowed applications;

the default data set accessed by each application;

the number of rings before switching to voicemail;

the default output device;

the speaker volume;

the earpiece volume;

the call forward number;

the voicemail box specification;

the auto answer preference;

the caller ID block list;

the number of telephony lines;

the mechanism of making long distance;

the speed dial numbers; and

the call minutes counter that counts the total telephony call duration of calls made while a persona is selected.